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Sapphire and Steel

Series Six ;
consisting of four half-hour episodes

FROM ITC ENTERTAINMENT
AN ACC COMPANY

ITC Entertainment presents:-

"SAPPHIRE AND STEEL" (Series SIX)

(Four half-hour episodes)

The sixth story, in four half-hour episodes, in the "SAPPHIRE AND STEEL" series comes once again from its creator P.J. Hammond, continuing with David McCallum as Steel and Joanna Lumley as Sapphire. They are again joined by David Collings as Silver, who has been seen earlier in the programmes.

The principal guest characters in the sixth story are a young man and a young woman, portrayed by Edward de Souza and Johanna Kirby, an old man played by John Boswall and, in the final two episodes, "Johnny Jack" played by Christopher Fairbank.

The setting is the present day but, as followers of "Sapphire and Steel" will know, time is not what it seems. The time-shifts not only move forwards but simultaneously represent 1925, 1948 and 1957.

Sapphire and Steel have cause to wonder why they have been sent on their new project and why Silver has joined them. In a small cafe, they meet the young man and woman who appear to be bewildered at arriving, a few hours after setting out, thirty years later.

The adjoining garage is modern. Its owner belongs to the past, yet constantly moves forward in time. Later, the figure of Johnny Jack, who says he is a member of a company of performers and believes the year to be 1957, arrives on the scene.

What are they all doing here? Where are they from? Sapphire senses evil — and more....... violence, fear, sudden death. Later, the realisation that she has picked up the future and sensed their own fear and deaths. Events become increasingly, and intriguingly, puzzling when they discover that the three strangers have similar powers of their own and when the young woman tells them that her boy-friend has been sent here to kill all three of them - sent from the past into the future to hunt them down and trap them.

Are Sapphire, Steel and Silver to find themselves in the future forever? The story reaches an imagination-boggling conclusion.

The ATV Network production, distributed by ITC Entertainment, has been produced by Shaun O'Riordan and directed by David Foster.

"SAPPHIRE AND STEEL" (Series Six) (VTR/5757/80)
Episode One.

SYNOPSIS

Sapphire and Steel are joined by Silver in their latest investigation into a time-break. It is the present day, but everything points to its being 1948. Who are the young couple they find in the cafe?

* * *

Silver, like Sapphire and Steel, is an agent from another dimension. He rejoins them on their latest investigation when they find themselves in a small garage adjoining the cafe. All they know is that they have been sent here to watch and wait. Silver is convinced that they are waiting for a time-break.

It is equally certain that there is no time in this place anymore. It appears to have stopped. It is past midnight; but clocks and watches, though working, show 8:54 - and Silver says this has been the time for the past six hours.

A car stands in the forecourt of the garage. It is a 1946 model, a veteran by 1980's standards, yet it is not more than two years old. And the young couple they find in the cafe seem to go with it. The woman seems ill at ease and the man is trying to comfort her. When Steel approaches them, the woman protests: "Whatever it is that's happened to us can't be a crime, can it?"

All the couple seem to know is that they had been driving here and suddenly arrived into the future, without warning. They had been making for a small garage they knew. The owner lived on the premises and would be willing to serve them at any time of the day or night. He also sold eggs, fruit and fresh vegetables. Badly kept, it had grass and weeds growing everywhere. But now the garage next door has two modern petrol pumps.

It was almost midnight when they arrived - on 11th July, 1948.

Sapphire is able to see that they are married - but not to each other. Their presence here is no accident, and the ominous atmosphere is increased when she, Steel and Silver catch a glimpse of the ghostly figure of an old man. Sapphire senses violence ..... fear ..... sudden death.

Suddenly, a strange, lurching sound. Time is changing. The clock on the cafe wall now reads four minutes past nine. Time has moved forward ten minutes. It is moving forward to.....where?

The Cast:-

Steel	DAVID McCALLUM
Sapphire	JOANNA LUMLEY
Silver	DAVID COLLINGS
Man	EDWARD DE SOUZA
Woman	JOHANNA KIRBY
Old Man	JOHN BOSWALL
Producer	SHAUN O'RIORDAN
Director	DAVID FOSTER
Writer	P.J. HAMMOND

An ATV Network production, distributed by ITC Entertainment.

SYNOPSIS

Time again shifts forward, but it is still 1948. But when meeting a mysterious figure, Sapphire and Steel find themselves back in 1925. They also puzzle over the presence of Silver.

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Strange things have happened when the eerie, lurching sound has been heard, and one of these is that a glass the woman was holding in her hand has transferred itself to another table. Steel examines it thoughtfully, and indicates to Sapphire and Silver that he wants them to get the man outside. They succeed in doing so by tricking him into believing they want to examine the car. Once outside, he confides that he and the woman are running away together - he from his wife, she from her husband. It's no surprise to Sapphire.

Inside, Steel has little success in obtaining information from the woman except that she and the man have known each other for seven or eight months and she's in love with him. She is relieved when told the present date. It means that some thirty years have been lost. No-one could pursue them.

Before he can continue his questioning, Steel hears Sapphire calling him. There has been a sudden jangling noise, like that of a tambourine, outside and the man has disappeared, leaving only a shadowy outline. Inside the cafe, the woman also disappears, leaving a similar shadow. Then she re-materialises and the man enters, back again in his normal form.

Sapphire has another worry on her mind. Why has Silver been sent here to watch? He is a technician, not an investigator. What are any of them here for, anyway? They're usually sent at the beginning of an event. But whatever is happening here hasn't happened yet. Or has it? Perhaps whatever it is has been waiting for them.

In the yard, they once again see the old man, this time solid and real and puzzled by their presence. He can't see them clearly. They're ghosts! Asked what year it is, he says it's 1925. Then he disappears.

Where does this tie up with 1948? The shifting of time becomes even more confusing. The lurching sound and time moves forward twenty minutes to 9.24 pm. Outside, footsteps can be heard, but no-one can be seen. Steel goes out to investigate but Sapphire cannot see him when she follows. What she does see is a dirty old tattered cloth doll, with a length of ribbon attached. Then she hears the tambourine sound again......

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Sapphire	JOANNA LUMLEY
Silver	DAVID COLLINGS
Man	EDWARD DE SOUZA
Woman	JOHANNA KIRBY
Old Man	JOHN BOSWALL
Producer	SHAUN O'RIORDAN
Director	DAVID FOSTER
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SYNOPSIS

The mystery deepens with the appearance of Johnny Jack.
Times become even more confusing when he says the date is 1957.
So now there are two from 1948, one from 1925 and one from 1957.
And Sapphire comes to a startling conclusion.

* * *

Sapphire picks up the tattered doll. As she does so, she sees a shadowy figure which then materialises into a man in his late 'twenties. He has something Edwardian about him. Linked to his belt is a tambourine, and attached to his jacket are several dolls. When he enters the cafe with Sapphire, he becomes increasingly puzzled, asking if something has happened here. When pressed by Steel to say who and what he is, he reluctantly claims to be a member of a company of performers who has left the others to walk here. His name is Johnny Jack.

Sapphire suddenly asks him what year it is, and he says 1957. So now they have two people, the man and the woman, from 1948, the old man from 1925 and Johnny Jack from 1957. Was there anything to connect those years?

One mystery follows another. Silver is able to state that the tambourine has never been played. And Sapphire, catching sight of the shadowy figure of the old man, concentrates hard and sees his shoddy figure turn into that of a well-groomed executive type, joined in similarly good attire by the man, the woman and Johnny Jack.

But they are still as they were when she returns to the cafe. Steel, meanwhile, is examining the car. When he sees the woman again, she says she wants to tell him the truth about her boy-friend. Before this opportunity presents itself, though, Sapphire has a shock for him. The danger that she first felt in the yard - a sensation of violence and death - had nothing to do with the old man. "It's to do with us," she tells him.... "I'd picked up the future. I was sensing our fear. Our deaths."

Strange things are happening to Silver, and when the old man appears his eyes have the same blue glow as Sapphire's. And so have the eyes of Johnny Jack and the man.....

<u>The Cast :-</u>

Steel	DAVID McCALLUM
Sapphire	JOANNA LUMLEY
Silver	DAVID COLLINGS
Man	EDWARD DE SOUZA
Woman	JOHANNA KIRBY
Old Man	JOHN BOSWALL
Johnny Jack	CHRISTOPHER FAIRBANK
Producer	SHAUN O'RIORDAN
Director	DAVID FOSTER
Writer	P.J. HAMMOND

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SYNOPSIS

Sapphire, Steel and Silver at last discover why they have been sent on such a bewildering assignment. It is a trap set for them. Does this mean the end of their existence?

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The realisation that Johnny Jack, the old man and the younger man are like them is a shock for Sapphire, Steel and Silver. They have similar powers but Sapphire is convinced that they represent evil. And this is confirmed when the young woman tells them that her boy-friend has been sent here to kill all three of them - sent from the past into the future to hunt them down and trap them.

She warns them to escape but Silver says this is impossible. There is a barrier completely encircling this place. Why should she be telling them so much? Sapphire spots the explanation when she realises that the woman is being controlled by signals. Silver acts quickly, reaching for the woman's blouse and snatching two metal contacts attached to her skin.

A small chess box, they learn from her, contains the secret of the man's ability to cross time. Everything can be seen in it, past and future. It is in a case in the car, and already the man is searching for it. But Silver gets there first and uses his powers to provide an instant reproduction for the man to take.

Further time shifts occur and Steel realises that if they continue this way, days will become hours and years will stretch into their thousands. Can the box control this? Silver doesn't think so; only time can control it completely. When Sapphire persuades him to let her glimpse into the box, all she can see are stars and space and distance.

They make desperate efforts to break through the invisible barrier that Silver tells them surrounds the place. Traffic can be heard. They push their way through hedgerows, but their progress is halted by the young man who is holding the box and opens the lid. Stars and space seem to enlarge and spread out from the box, accompanied by a roaring sound. Then silence and darkness.

In the cafe, the man clasps the woman and exclaims: "We did it!" Then they see Sapphire and Steel entering, asking what year it is. They don't know. Silver joining them, is equally puzzled. Then the man and the woman vanish as the woman's last words are heard: "This is nowhere. And it's forever."

The Cast:-

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